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Upon Reading ye Petition of John Grymes, Esq'r, Receiver Gen'll, Setting forth, &c.

The Board Certifies that ye Allegations in ye Pet'n concerning Anderson's Credit are true—upon their own Knowledge—that ye Receiver Gen'll produc'd ye Bond & bills of Exch. mention'd in ye Acc't annex'd to ye case, & made Oath that he had received no more than Credit given—& that ye Money lent was ye King's Money—& that he had no prospect of Receiv'g more.

As to ye Case upon falconars breaking—the Receiver produc'd ye Acc't Curr't from his Ex'c & made oath that he received no more than Credit given for nor expects to receive more—& the Board certifies that Falconar was always reputed in Virg'a to be a person of Credit.

Humphrey Bell's Pet'n Granted.

TO BE CONTINUED.

DOCUMENTS RELATING TO THE FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR, 1755-1762.

Edited and Annotated by CHARLES E. KEMPER, Washington, D. C.

At a Coucil of War held at Augusta Court House (in obedience to his Honor the Govenors Orders). By the undernamed Officers

PRESENT:

Col'n John Buchanan & David Stewart.

Major John Brown.

Captains Joseph Culton,	James Lockart,
Robert Scott,	Israel Christian,
Patrick Martin,	Samuel Stalnicker,
Wm. Christian,	Thomas Armstrong.
Robert Breckenridge,	

Who having taken their seats proceeded to Business.

Whereas his Honor the Governor has sent repeated orders to the officers of the Militia of this county to meet and consult on the most proper Places to build Forts along the Frontiers for the Protection of the inhabitants. It is therefore unanimously agreed

by the sd Council¹ that a Fort be built at Petersons on the South Branch of Potowmack nigh Mill Creek at some convenient spot of ground for a fort, which is left to the discretion of the Officers appointed for that service Also another fort to be at Hugh Mans Mill on Sheltons tract. And another fort to be constructed at

¹This council of war was held in pursuance of an act passed by the General Assembly of Virginia in March, 1756, which ordered that a chain of forts should be erected along the frontier commencing at Henry Enoch's on Great-Caor-Capon (now Capon) River in Hampshire County, and extending to the South Fork of Mayo River in the County of Halifax. (*Hening's Statutes*, Vol. VII, p. 18). On April 23, 1750, George Washington surveyed for Henry Enoch a tract of waste land "situate at ye Fork of Cacapehon." (Washington's *Journal of my Journey Over the Mountains*, 1747-48.) These two authorities fix the location of the most northerly fort.

The fort at Hugh Mann's Mill was probably in the neighborhood of Upper Tract, in present Pendleton County, W. Va., which locality was then the most populous neighborhood on the upper waters of the South Branch. The fort at Trout Rock was about four miles south of present Franklin, W. Va., and its name is still preserved.

Two letters written by Colonel George Washington to Governor Dinwiddie in the fall of 1756 throw some light upon the general location of these forts and give much information concerning the state of the country and condition of the militia forces. Washington left Winchester September 29, 1756, in company with Captain McNeil, to visit the chain of forts. Upon his arrival at Staunton he tried without success to raise a party of militia in order to march against the Indians who were then committing depredations on Jackson's River in present Bath County. He then proceeded to Looney's Ferry on James River, where Col. John Buchanan lived. From this point he proceeded to Fort Trial on Smith's River, the most southerly of the forts. On his journey down and back he visited several forts, among them Fort William, near the head of Catawba Creek, in present Botetourt County, then commanded by Colonel Nash. This fort had recently been attacked by the Indians. Upon his return to the home of Colonel Buchanan, that gentleman, with an escort of militia officers, accompanied him "up Jackson's River along the range of forts." These were Captain Miller's Fort, Captain Breckenridge's Fort, and Fort Dinwiddie, in present Bath County. The fort at Matthew Harper's was in the northern portion of present Highland County. Fort Dickenson was on the Cowpasture River about four miles below present Millborough, Va. John's Creek Fort was at present Newcastle, Craig County, Va. Summers, in his *History of Southwest Virginia*, p. 58, states that Fort Vass was on the headwaters of the Roan-

the most convenient place and the pass of the greatest importance between the above said tract and the house of Mathew Harper on Bullpasture, which is to be built at the discretion of the Officers appointed for that purpose. Also a fort to be constructed at Mathew Harpers or some convenient spot there. And a fort to be erected at Capt. John Millers on Jacksons River. And as the Frontiers are properly protected by the Forts of Captain Hog, Brackinridge, & Dickenson there is no want of a fort unto the mouth of John's Creek a branch of Craigs Creek, at which place a fort is to be erected. And as Fort William is sufficient to guard that important pass the next convenient place West of Fort William is at Neal McNeal's where a fort is ordered to be built at or nigh that plantation, and the next fort to be built at Capt. James Campbells, and a fort is to be built at Capt. Vanse's [Vass's] where a large body of men is to be kept as it is a very important pass. Also a fort to be constructed at John Mason's on the South side of Roanoke.

It is agreed that the following numbers of men is necessary to to be placed at each fort.

	Men
At Mason's Fort	30
at Vances [Fort Vass]	70
at Campbell's fort	50

oke River, about ten miles west of the present Christiansburg, Va. Campbell's Fort was probably near the central portion of present Montgomery County, Va., and McNeil's Fort on the eastern side of said county, while Mason's Fort was in present Roanoke County in the vicinity of Salem.

Diligent search among the splendid collections of maps in the Library of Congress fails to reveal a map of the French and Indian War period showing the exact location of these forts, and the reader is asked to accept with reserve the locations given to the three last named.

In one of his letters to Governor Dinwiddie, Washington expressed the apprehension that Frederick, Augusta and Hampshire would soon be depopulated, saying that the whole back country was in motion towards the southern colonies. (*Spark's Writings of Washington*, Vol. II, pp. 189 201.)

Nearly all the officers who participated in this council of war were identified with the early history of the upper Valley, and receive mention more or less extended in Waddell's *Annals of Augusta County*.

at McNeal's fort	30
at Fort William	50 exclusive of Officers.
at John's Creek	50
at Capt Deekens [Dickensons] Fort	40
at Capt. Brackenridge Fort . .	50
at Capt Miller's Fort	50
at Harper's fort	50
at Trout Rock fort	50
at Hugh Man's Mill	50
at Peterson's	50
Dinwiddie	60

680 men in all to protect
ye frontiers.

It is agreed that the commanding officers give orders that Fort Vanse [Vass] be made at least one hundred feet square in the clear; and that the stockades be at least fourteen feet long; that all the other forts be made 60 feet square with two bastions in each fort, provided the same be agreeable to Capt. Peter Hog, who is supposed to have his Hon'r the Govenors orders to oversee the Constructing of the said chain of forts. The distance between each fort above mentioned, or the places agreed for them to be built on, are as follows (viz)

	Miles.
From the County line to Peterson's	2
From Peterson's to Hugh Man's Mill	18
from thence to Trout Rock	17
from Trout Rock to Mathew Harper's	20
from thence to Capt. Miller's	18
from thence to fort Dinwiddie	15
from thence to Capt Brackenridge's fort	13
from thence to fort Dickenson	13
from thence to John's Creek	25
from thence to Fort William	20
From Fort William to Neal McNeal's	13
From thence to Capt Campbell's	13
From thence to Capt Vanse's [Vass's]	12

From thence to John Mason's . . . 20

From thence to the first Inhabitants in Halifax County South side of Ridge—By } 250 miles in all.
which we find our Frontiers extend . }

The above Resolves are signed by all the Officers present this 27 day of July 1756.

	John Buchanan,
	David Stewart,
	John Brown,
	Joseph Culton,
	Robert Scott,
Test:	James Lockart,
Wm. Preston, Ck.	Israel Christian,
Council of War.	Wm. Christian,
	James Mitchell,
	Robert Brackenridge,
	Thomas Armstrong,
	Patrick Martin,
	Samuel Stalnacker.

Clerk's office of the Corporation Court of the City of Staunton,
January 22nd, 1907.

The foregoing paper is a true copy of the proceedings of a Council of War, of date July 27, 1756, as recorded in a book of Court-Martial and other proceedings, in the custody of the clerk of the Court aforesaid.

NEWTON ARGENBRIGHT, Clerk.

EXTRACTS FROM THE JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA HOUSE OF
BURGESSES, 1740-59.

[Copy in Library of Congress.]

Camp at Will's Creek,
August 1, 1755.

Gentlemen:

We have the Misfortune to lose our Horses, Furniture,
Tents, Marquees, Cloaths, Linnens, in short all our Field Equi-

page, in the late Action on *Monongahela*,² which we hope you will be so good as to take under your Consideration, and make us such an Allowance as will, in some Measure, compensate our Losses, and enable us to take the Field again. This we find is customary among the *British* Troops, by Way of a contingent Bill. Upon Enquiry you will have the Pleasure to find that Yours are equally deserving. The small Number who were engaged, and survived the Action, gives the greater Reason to expect your Redress.

We are, with great Respect, gentlemen,

Your most faithful and obedient humble Servants,

Adam Stephen,
Thomas Waggoner,
Robert Stewart,
James Craik,
William Bronaugh,
Walter Stewart,
Hector McNeill.

Ordered That the said Letter do lie on the Table.

Thursday, May 12, 1757.

Resolved That in the Opinion of this Committee, That the Petition of David Parsons, John Morgan, John Munk, John Darnal, Josiah Fishback, Leonard Davis, Thomas Conway, Jun.,

²Captain Orme's letter supplements this report written by the surviving officers of the Virginia troops which participated in Braddock's defeat, and these two lists no doubt give the names of all the Virginia officers engaged in that battle. The Captains and Lieutenants named in this list (including Colonel George Washington) were rewarded for their services by Act of General Assembly of Virginia passed in August, 1755. (*Hening's Statutes*, Vol. VI, p. 528.)

Washington, in describing Braddock's defeat, says that the Virginia troops displayed a great deal of bravery and were nearly all killed, while the British regulars "ran as sheep pursued by dogs, and it was impossible to rally them." (Sparks' *Writings of Washington*, Vol. II., p. 87.)

Captain Orme gives a complete list of General Braddock's staff and the commissioned officers of the 44th and 48th regiments of regulars, the British troops which participated in the engagement.

William Twiner, John Twentyman, James Corder, and Joshua Welch, who were drafted from the Militia of Prince William County, and after serving seventy-nine Days on the Frontier of this Colony returned Home without the Consent of their Commanding Officer to provide themselves with Cloathes and other Necessaries which they were in great Want of, is reasonable, and that they ought to be paid for the said seventy-nine Days Time they continued in the Service of this Colony.

Friday, June 3, 1757.

It also appears to this Committee, That Capt. Samuel Stalnaker's Account for pay for himself, the Officers and Soldiers of his Company of Militia in Augusta County,³ and for Horse Hire for the Use of the said Company, as regulated by the Committee, amounting to £208, os., 4d., is just; That the said Stalnaker hath received, by Order of the Governor, £100; and that there is now due from the Public for the Balance of the said Account, the Sum of £108, os., 4d., besides what shall appear to be due on settling his Provision Account.

It also appears to this Committee That the Account of Capt. John Maxwell for pay for himself, the Officers and Soldiers of his Company of Militia in Augusta County, as regulated by the Committee, is just; and that there is due upon said Account from the Public, the Sum of £192, 3s.

It also appears to this Committee That Capt. John Hardin and his Company of Militia, in Frederick County, were in the Service of the Country eight days each; and that there is due to them for the said Service the Sum of £20. 8s.

It also appears to this Committee That Col. John Buchanan, of Augusta, hath paid to several of the Officers of the Militia of the said County, for the Pay of the said Militia and for Provisions for their Use, the Sum of £2442, 10s. That he hath received

³The value of this list consists in the fact that it shows the names of the militia officers who rendered active service in the initial years of the French and Indian War. In Volume VII of *Hening's Statutes*, extensive lists may be found of payments made to officers and men of the militia forces engaged in this border warfare.

from the Treasurer £2500, and that the Balance of £57, 10s. remains in his Hands to be accounted for.

Your Committee hath also had under their Consideration the several Accounts of Lieutenant George Bigham, Capt. Ephraim Love, Capt. James Allen, Capt. Abraham Smith, Capt. James Dunlop, Lieut. Samson Archer, Capt. John Moore, Capt. Joseph Culton, Capt. Joseph Lapsley, Capt. Joseph Kennedy, Lieut. James Magavock, Thomas Moore, Capt. John Dickenson, William Wilson, Capt. James Mitchell, Capt Robert Breckenridge, and Capt. Samuel Stalnaker, of Augusta, Capt. Richard Callaway of Bedford, Capt. John Nash, Jun., of Prince Edward, and Col. Henry Lee, of Prince William, for Pay to the Militia of those Counties, and for Provisions; also the Account of Mr. Clement Reade of Lunenburg, for Pay to the Militia for Provisions and for sundry extraordinary Matters; but the said Accounts appearing to the Committee very irregular, and without proper Vouchers, they could not settle or adjust the same.

Monday, April 3, 1758.

A Message from the Council by Mr. Walthoe.

That a Memorial of John Smith, late Captain of a Company of Rangers on the Frontiers of this Colony, addressed to the President, Council, and House of Burgesses, had been read in Council and was by them referred to the Consideration of this House.

And the said Memorial was read, setting forth That in June 1756 the said Smith, then in Fort Vauss [Vass]⁴ in Augusta, with

⁴This account of the capture of Fort Vass is of much value to the frontier history of Virginia during the French and Indian War as the real facts are here presented for the first time. It amplifies in some respects the account given by Waddell in his *Annals of Augusta County*, 2d Ed., pp. 115-16, 150-51 and also removes from the realm of tradition the fate of Captain Smith while in captivity.

The plan outlined in this memorial had been previously communicated to Washington, then Colonel of the Virginia Regiment, with headquarters at Winchester. In a letter to Colonel Stanwix dated March 4, 1758, Washington speaks quite disparagingly of *Major* Smith's project, and says: "He lost the Block-House in which he commanded by suffering his men to straggle from it at pleasure, which the Indians observing

a small Party, was attacked by the Enemy, which (after having defended it till he had but three Men left) he was at length obliged to surrender: That the Enemy then most inhumanly murdered his eldest Son before his Face, and carried him Prisoner to the Shawanese Towns and French Forts, and from thence to Quebec, where he was put on Board a Cartel Ship and carried to England. That from the Observations he made, while Prisoner, he is of Opinion that a small Party of Men (about 800) might if properly conducted easily destroy those Indian Towns and perhaps some of the French Forts. That while he was in England he had the Honor to be introduced to Mr. Secretary Pitt, to whom he communicated his Observations, who highly approved his Scheme, and recommended him to Lord Loudoun [Loudon] to encourage him and promote such an Enterprise. That he has lost three Sons and great Part of his Fortune in the Service of his Country, and that being still ready and zealous for his Majesty's Service, and well acquainted with the Route necessary to be taken to distress the Enemy in those Parts, he humbly offers himself to undertake such an Expedition if it should be approved of.

Ordered, That the said Memorial do lie on the Table for the Perusal of the Members of this House.

Wednesday, October 15th, 1760.

Mr. George Johnston reported that the Committee to whom the Petition of Herbert M'Clure was referred, had had the same under their consideration, and had agreed upon a Report and come to a Resolution thereupon, then delivered at the Table, when they were again twice read and agreed to by the House as follows, It appears to the Committee that in the Month of October 1759 a party of Shawese Indians⁵ made an Incursion into the

took advantage of his weakness and attacked him at a time when he had no men in his works." Washington adds, however, that Captain Smith made a gallant defence. (Sparks' *Writings of Washington*, Boston, 1833, Vol. II, pp. 273-74.)

Captain Smith was one of the early settlers of Augusta County, having been a Captain of Militia in 1742. For further account of him and his family, see Boogher's *Gleanings of Virginia History*, pp. 330-72.

⁵This was the first Indian massacre on Kerr's Creek in the present county of Rockbridge, and the date of that affair is definitely fixed by

County of Augusta, and having cruelly murdered 12 of the Inhabitants, carried 13 others prisoners, together with Several Horses and many other Goods; with a Company of Volunteers, whereof the Petitioner was one, under the Command of one *William Christian*, pursued the Indians and retook the Prisoners, Horses and Goods; in which Pursuit the Prisoner [petitioner] received a Musket Ball through his Ankle; That he stands now chargeable to two Surgeons in the Sum of £30 for attempting to cure the same, which he is unable to pay. It further appears that he is a very poor Man, hath a Wife and Children to maintain, and to this Day remains a Cripple and in all Probability will continue so. Resolved that he be allowed the sum of Thirty Pounds.

March 20, 1761. P. M.

A Petition of Mary Ingles⁶ setting forth that in the Year 1756

this petition. Waddell gives 1759 as the probable date, but was not certain as to the year. In 1763 or 1764 a second massacre, even more disastrous than the first, occurred on Kerr's Creek in the same locality. (Waddell, *Annals of Augusta County*, 2d Ed., pp. 170-71, 189-90.

William Christian is the same person whose name appears among the Captains participating in the council of war held at Staunton July 17, 1756, *supra*. He was the son of Gilbert Christian, one of the earliest settlers of Augusta County.

⁶More has been written concerning Mrs. Mary Ingles than of any other person in Virginia who suffered the horrors of Indian captivity. The most circumstantial account is given by the late Dr. John P. Hale of Charleston, W. Va., a great-grandson of Mrs. Ingles, whose account of her capture, residence among the Indians, and escape and return to her family in Virginia, covers many pages in his work entitled *Trans-Allegheny Pioneers*. Dr. Hale whose account has been followed by many writers, states that Mrs. Ingles was captured July 8, 1755, at Draper's Meadow, near the site of present Blacksburg, Va.; that Col. James Patton was killed at the same time and place; that the name of her husband was William; that he was away from home at the time and thus escaped; and he died at Ingle's Ferry in the fall of 1782, aged fifty-three years. Mrs. Ingles is said by the same author to have died in February, 1815, in her 84th year. While Dr. Hale probably states other incidents of her captivity correctly, this petition shows that she was captured when Fort Vass fell in June, 1756, and that her husband was killed at that time and place. This is confirmed by the "*Preston Register*," which gives the name of

she was with her Husband in Fort Vaux, [Vass] in Augusta, when he was killed and she carried away into Captivity by the Indians, amongst whom she was barbarously treated; and on her Return into the Colony she found her House and her whole effects burned, and was thereby reduced to the utmost Distress, since which she has been supported entirely by the charitable Contributions of the Welldisposed, and praying Relief of the House, was presented to the House and read.

Ordered That said Petition be referred to the Consideration of the Committee of Claims, that they examine into the Allegations thereof and report the same with their Opinion thereon to the House.

EXTRACTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PROVINCIAL COUNCIL
OF PENNSYLVANIA, VOLUME VI, PP. 487-491

Extract from a Letter of Captain Robert Orme⁷ to Governor Morris of Pennsylvania.

Fort Cumberland, July 18, 1755.

A list of Officers who were present and of those killed and

John English (*sic*) among the killed, and Mrs. Mary English (*sic*) among the captured at Fort Vass. (Summers' *History of Southwest Virginia*, p. 60). These persons were unquestionably John Ingles and his wife Mary — the petitioner. This surname has been written Ingles, Inglis, and English, the first being the proper form. The importance of this petition consists in the fact that it must cause an interesting episode of frontier history to be rewritten in practically all of its salient incidents.

The petition of Mr. S. Ingles was respected by the House of Burgesses March 25, 1761. No reason for the action being assigned.

⁷Captain Robert Orme was Aid-de-camp to General Braddock and this may be accepted as a complete list of all the Virginia officers at Braddock's defeat. It corrects many traditions concerning Virginians alleged to have been officers under Braddock, notably with reference to the sons of John Lewis, the pioneer of Augusta County, several of whom are stated by various authorities to have been commissioned officers in this battle, but their names do not appear either in this list or among the officers of the 44th and 48th regiments of regulars.

Captain Stephen entered the service from Frederick County, Va.; Captain Waggoner from Prince William, and Lieutenant McNeal probably

wounded in the Action on the Banks of the Monongahela, the 9th Day of July, 1755.

VIRGINIA TROOPS.

Captain Stephens	.	.	.	.	wounded
Capt. Waggoner	.	.	.	.
Capt. Poulston	.	.	.	.	killed
Capt. Peronie	.	.	.	.	killed
Capt. Stewart	.	.	.	.
Hamilton	.	.	.	.	killed
Woodward	.	.	.	.
Wright	.	.	.	.	killed
Splitdorff	.	.	.	.	killed
Stuart	.	.	.	.	wounded
Waggoner	.	.	.	.	killed
McNeale	.	.	.	.

According to the most exact Return we can as yet get, about 600 Men Killed and wounded.

EXTRACT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PROVINCIAL COUNCIL OF PENNSYLVANIA, VOLUME VIII, PP. 728-750.

List of prisoners returned by the Indians at a conference held at Lancaster, Pa., August 13, 1762; present Hon. James Hamilton, Lieutenant Governor of Pennsylvania, and others representing that province, and Indian deputies representing the Ohio Delawares, Tuscaroras, Shawnees, and other tribes settled west of the Ohio.

Thomas Moore, taken from Potowmac, Md.⁸

from Hampshire. Lieutenant John Hamilton was evidently from Augusta, as John Craig from that county presented a petition concerning his estate to the General Assembly on November 14, 1764. (*Journal of the Virginia House of Burgesses, 1760-1774.*) The remaining officers were probably about evenly divided between the Valley and the Piedmont counties of the Northern Neck.

⁸This list gives only a small number of the prisoners carried away by the Indians from the frontiers of Maryland, Pennsylvania and Virginia during the French and Indian War. It will be noticed that the Virginia prisoners here named were nearly all from the South Branch of the Potomac,

Philip Studebecker, Conegocheaque [Conachocheague], Md.
 Ann Dougherty, Pa.,
 Peter Condon, "
 Mary Stroudman, Conegoucheaque, Md.
 William Jackson, Tulpehocken, Pa.
 Elizabeth McAdam, Little Cove, Pa.
 John LLoyd, " " "
 Elanor Lancestoctes, Little Cove, Pa.
 Dorothy Shobian, Big Cove, Pa.
 Richard Rogers, Virginia.
 Esther Rogers, "
 Jacob Rogers, South Branch, Va.
 Archibald Woods, " " "
 Christopher Haltimen Haldman, South Branch, Va.
 Rebecca Walter, South Branch, Va.
 Hans Boyer, "A Boy not known from whence."
 Elizabeth Williams ("a young woman").
 Henry Williams, aged about 18 years (brother of Elizabeth).
 Peggy Dougherty.
 Mary Tidd and her child, taken near Samuel Depuies.
 Abigail Evan and her child, "taken at Stony Creek in Virginia, by Cowachsora, a Seneca."
 John Brightwell, of Lower Marlborough, near Patuxent, in Md., a Deserter from the 1st Battalion of Royal Americans.

which section, now chiefly comprised in Hampshire and Hardy counties, W. Va., was almost deserted by its white inhabitants at the close of the war. Kercheval, in his *History of the Valley of Virginia*, devotes several chapters to accounts of Indian raids and massacres, but Washington in many letters written to Governor Dinwiddie from Fort Loudoun (Winchester) in the years 1756 and 1757, gives by far the best accounts which have come down to us of conditions then existing in the Shenandoah Valley. At one time he was fearful that the entire country would be depopulated, and that the Indians would carry the war across the Blue Ridge mountains. (Spark's *Writings of Washington*, Vol. II, pp. 125-270.